



Telehealth Work Group Minutes

In person participants:

Mary McGinnis	Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT)
Saro Loucks	OHIT

Participants via phone:

Glenn Groesch	Southern Illinois University (SIU)
Nancy Kaszak	University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), Center for Telehealth
Josh Sarver	SIU
Sunil Hazaray	Authentidate Holding Corporation

Introductions and Roll Call

Mary McGinnis of OHIT started the meeting at 10AM and took roll call.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes were approved by **Glenn Groesch** and **Nancy Kaszak**.

HIE Update

Mary McGinnis provided an update on the Illinois Health Information Exchange (ILHIE).

Raul Recarey, formerly of the State of Missouri HIE, has been appointed as the Acting Director of the Authority of the ILHIE. He brings with him much experience with HIE and is a great asset to advancing work on the ILHIE.

ILHIE Direct has approximately 930 registrants and work continues to increase utilization by implementing use cases and expanding provider education and outreach.



Work continues with the Alpha Partners and there is a first tech review happening the week of October 8th with the Alliance of Chicago and Near North Health Service Corporation.

The Data Security and Privacy Committee presented their recommendations regarding data privacy and security policies to the ILHIE Authority Board at their meeting on September 19th. The recommendation is that Illinois will be designated as an “opt-out” state meaning all patient information will be transmitted securely in the ILHIE unless a patient chooses to “opt-out”.

Telehealth Survey

Glenn Groesch presented a draft survey to the group. The survey consists of 12 questions. Glenn informed the group that a short survey was desired in order to encourage greater participation from hospital CEOs and CIOs. The survey consists of questions which assess current Telemedicine usage as well as future capability and plans to adopt Telemedicine.

Nancy Kaszak stated the importance of adding a question or two concerning commercial insurer reimbursement and whether the provider is receiving this type of reimbursement. Nancy said this will be an important agenda item in Illinois at some point and it is important to have a clear understanding of what private payers are doing now. Nancy is going to send some draft questions concerning private payer reimbursement to Glenn.

Mary McGinnis suggested using “Survey Monkey” for the survey and offered that OHIT could assist in formatting the survey tool. Mary suggested contacting Lori Williams of the Illinois Hospital Association to determine if she has some suggestions for survey recipients.

Josh Sarver reported that he has been tracking Telemedicine reimbursement and will send links to the group to give them an idea what the reimbursement amount to Telemedicine providers “looks like”.

Telepsych Symposium Update

Nancy Kaszak informed the group that a short survey gauging interest in a Telepsych symposium has been distributed to hospitals. 40 hospitals responded. 90% of the people surveyed indicated that they are interested in attending such a symposium and a larger number responded that there is a great need for Telepsych.

There are two speakers lined up: Nina Antoniotti the Director of Telehealth at the Marshfield Clinic, and Don Hilti of UC Davis who is a specialist in rural Telehealth. The



planning group is in the midst of contacting sponsors, and there will also be a panel addressing Telepsych on an outpatient basis.

Open Discussion

Nancy Kaszak stated that ICAHN, MCHC and the University of Illinois are applying for a HRSA – Rural Health Network Planning Grant. The grant is to provide funds for the planning of a state-wide Telepsych network. A state-wide network is needed because there are not enough psychiatrists in rural areas or in some urban areas. Also, there are not enough psychiatric professionals available to work 2nd and 3rd shifts. Nancy also quoted the 2004 IHA findings which indicated that there was a 50% increase of behavioral health patients in ERs which creates significant financial issues. They hope to get funding for the grant next year.

Mary McGinnis offered a letter of support from OHIT, which Nancy gladly accepted.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Next Meeting

The meeting date was changed to October 13th from 10-11AM.

Meeting Adjourned